

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
19 February 2004 (19.02.2004)

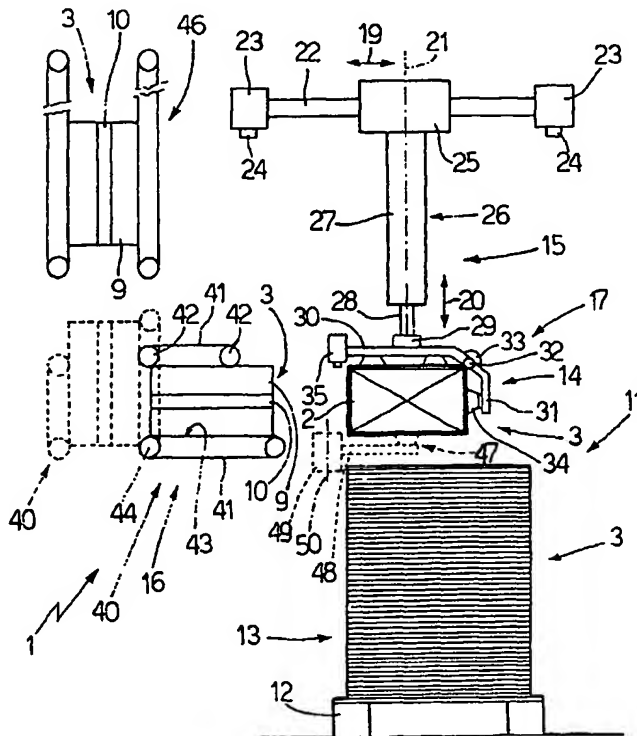
PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/014730 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: B65B 5/02, 43/26 (74) Agents: JORIO, Paolo et al.; Studio Torta S.r.l., Via Viotti, 9, I-10121 Torino (IT).
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/EP2003/050353 (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (22) International Filing Date: 31 July 2003 (31.07.2003) (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: BO2002A000521 5 August 2002 (05.08.2002) IT
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- Published:
— with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND MACHINE FOR PACKING A PRODUCT IN A FLAT TUBULAR PACKAGE



(57) **Abstract:** A method and machine (1) for packing a group (2) of cartons of cigarettes in a flat tubular package (3), whereby a first portion (30) and a second portion (31) of a suction gripping head (14) respectively engage a first lateral wall (4) of the flat tubular package (3), and a second lateral wall (5) of the flat tubular package (3) separated from the first lateral wall (4) by a respective pre-formed fold line (6); a rotational movement is then generated between the first and second portion (30, 31) of the suction gripping head (14) to rotate the first and second lateral wall (4, 5) engaged by the suction gripping head (14) with respect to each other, and so convert the flat tubular package (3) from the flat configuration to an open configuration; the group (2) of cartons of cigarettes is then pushed inside the open tubular package (3), and the suction gripping head (14) is moved to feed the open tubular package (3) to a sealing station (16) where the open tubular package (3) is sealed.

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